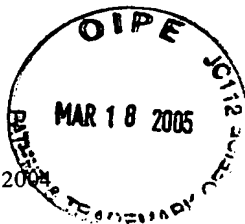


Appl. No. 09/992,044  
Amdt. Dated March 16 2005  
Reply to Office action of December 16, 2004



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**RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.16  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
EXAMINING GROUP 2613**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appl. No. : 09/992,044  
Applicant : Tsutomu Uenoyama et al.  
Filed : November 16, 2001  
Title : PICTURE CODING METHOD, PICTURE CODING APPARATUS  
AND IMAGE RELAYING APPARATUS

TC/A.U. : 2613  
Examiner : Behrooz M. Senfi  
Conf. No. : 4449

Docket No. : 34168  
Customer No. : 000,116

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT "B" AFTER FINAL UNDER RULE 1.116**

Sir:

This amendment is filed in response to the Office action dated December 16, 2004 (Paper No. 20041211). The three month period for responding to the Office action expires on March 16, 2005.

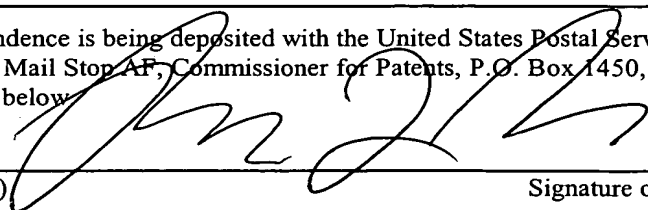
Please amend the above-identified application in the following manner.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 2 of this paper.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date indicated below.

Robert F. Bodi

Name of Attorney for Applicant(s)

 3/16/05  
Signature of Attorney/Date